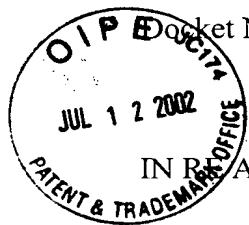


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JUL 15 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900



Docket No.: 200936US0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Patrick M. ALLIEL, et al.

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1650

SERIAL NO: 09/719,554

: EXAMINER: BROWN, S.S.

FILED: JANUARY 18, 2001

:

FOR: NUCLEIC SEQUENCE AND DEDUCED PROTEIN SEQUENCE FAMILY WITH
HUMAN ENDOGENOUS RETROVIRAL MOTIFS AND THEIR USES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Communication of June 12, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy to read as follows:

8. (Amended) The reagent as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that it is selected from the following sequences:

- a fragment of 1505 nt amplified by the pair of primers SEQ ID NO: 37 and SEQ ID NO: 38 (primers G1F and G1R),
- a fragment of 2529 nt amplified by the pair of primers SEQ ID NO: 45 and SEQ ID NO: 46 (primers E1F and E1R),
- a fragment of 182 nucleotides, repeated twice, situated upstream of the *gag* domain at positions 2502-2611/2613-2865 of SEQ ID NO: 3,